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REMARKS

Claims 3,9, and 13-21 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-2, 4-8, and 10-12 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant notes with thanks and appreciation that claims 3-7 and 9-21 were found to have allowable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

Having obviated the Examiner's objections, Applicant hereby seeks an early indication of allowance.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

The Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for reply to the Office Action dated March 15, 2004 for three-months from June 14, 2004 to Tuesday, August 17, 2004. Please debit the cost of extension from Deposit Account number 4-2219, referencing our docket number 5746.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine L. Germine

Catherine L. Gemrich Attorney Registration No. 50473

Attorney for Applicant

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Melissa Stieglite